



U.S. Embassy Luxembourg Public Affairs Section

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**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TRANSATLANTIC FELLOWS
SUMMER INSTITUTE 2016
Video Essay Competition**

Students will record a video essay in response to this year's BFTF topic: **"What do you think the biggest challenge people in Europe are going to be facing in the next five years, and how do you propose that this challenge be addressed?"** The winner of this video essay contest will have the opportunity to travel to the United States to participate in a four-week exchange program at an American university around July 2016. The program will involve both European and American young people as they discuss common challenges on both sides of the Atlantic, as well as participate in interactive programs while learning about American culture.

The US Embassy in Luxembourg organizes the Benjamin Franklin Transatlantic Fellowship contest each year as a competition for young students of Luxembourgish citizenship. These students, aged 16 to 18, are asked this year to present their thoughts on the chosen topic in video format. Creative ideas are encouraged, but please note that the video essay should be in English, and the camera should be facing the student for the entire video. The video should be a maximum of two minutes in length.

This trip is all expenses paid; this means that flights, accommodation, meals, local transport, insurance, tickets for cultural events, etc, are covered by the Embassy.

Submit your application to: LuxembourgPublicAffairs@state.gov by 5pm on March 14th, 2016. Please note that if you are selected for an interview, these will be held at the US Embassy in Luxembourg towards the end of March. The winner for Luxembourg will be announced in April.

To be eligible, participants must:

- Hold Luxembourgish citizenship;
- Be 16, 17, or 18 years of age as of July 1, 2016;
- Be proficient in English, as demonstrated in a personal interview;

- Have a sustained high level of academic achievement, as indicated by academic grades, awards, and teacher recommendations;
- Demonstrate strong leadership potential and interest in transatlantic relations and diplomacy;
- Demonstrate a commitment to community and extracurricular activities;
- Indicate a serious interest in learning about the United States;
- Have had little or no prior U.S. study or travel experience in the United States;
- Be comfortable with campus life, shared living accommodations, travel and interaction with a multinational group of participants from across Europe and the United States, and comfortable with engaging with various Americans in the broader community;
- Be able to adjust to cultural and social practices different from those of their home countries;
- Be committed to continuing their education (either at high school or university) in the fall of 2016;
- Be mature, responsible, independent, confident, open-minded, tolerant, thoughtful and inquisitive;
- Be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive summer program, community service, and active educational travel program;

In addition to the video, students must provide the following information:

1. Name (as on passport):
2. Age:
3. Date of birth:
4. City of birth:
5. Country of birth:
6. Country of residence:
7. Country of citizenship:
8. Gender:
9. Applicant's full address:
10. Home telephone number:
11. E-mail address:
12. Name of high school:
13. Applicant's field of study (if applicable):

14. Any other relevant educational, academic and professional experience or training:

15. Active memberships, special interests, or extracurricular activities:

16. Languages (and proficiency level):

17. Previous travel or study experience in the United States (please include dates and purpose):

18. Future study or career plans:

19. Parent or guardian signatures:

I permit my son/daughter to apply for and, if selected, to participate in this program realizing that they may need to request permission from their school to finish the school year early.

Signature_____ Date _____

For more information: <http://bftf.org/>